

Message Text

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10

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

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EUR/NE:PCANNEY

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TREASURY:ERENDALL

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TO USMISSION GENEVA

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AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, FI, CZ

SUBJECT: WP ON FINNISH-CZECH FREE TRADE AREA AGREEMENT

REF: GENEVA 2755

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1. WE SHARE SKEPTICISM (REFTEL) THAT CZECHS WILL ANSWER

FULLY QUESTIONS PUT TO THEM IN FIRST MEETING OF WP.
FORTHCOMING ANSWERS WOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT THE MECHANISMS
OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S TRADE POLICY MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR
A FREE TRADE AREA AS ENVISIONED IN ARTICLE XXIV TO OPERATE.

2. WE DO NOT OBJECT TO BRINGING WP EXAMINATION TO THE
SAME PROCEDURAL STAGE AS THE HUNGARIAN AGREEMENT, AND
WOULD BE SATISFIED WITH CONCLUSIONS IDENTICAL TO THOSE
IN L/423B-(THE REPORT OF THE FIRST
IN L/4230 (THE REPORT OF THE FIRST WP SESSION ON THE
HUNGARIAN AGREEMENT). HOWEVER, CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN TO
ENSURE THAT EQUALITY IN TERMS OF PROCEDURE IS NOT CONFUSED
WITH EQUALITY IN TERMS OF SUBSTANCE. THOUGH WE ALSO BELIEVE
THE HUNGARIAN AGREEMENT TO BE INCONSISTENT WITH ART. XXIV
A MORE RESPECTABLE CASE CAN BE MADE FOR IT THAN FOR ANY OF
THE OTHERS. KISSINGER

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